

Evelyn Bruce SKINNER

Evelyn Skinner was born in 1881 in Prahran. He was 35 years old when he enlisted in January 1917. Before the war, Skinner had been a volunteer with the Civilian Militia.

Admitted to practice in 1905, Skinner settled in East Gippsland, first at Foster then at Yarram. Skinner's enlistment was noted in his local paper and it was reported that he is the 'second member of the firm to offer his services to his country'. One man was now running the practice that had supported three men. (The other member of the firm to be in service was EJ Hamilton, who is also named on the board).

Skinner's time in the Army was to be short lived, although he was noted on his army records as "keen and intelligent". Evelyn Skinner had significant hearing loss due to a middle ear infection. He was discharged from the Army on 3 October 1917 as medically unfit. The *Gippsland Standard* reported that "*Mr Skinner had set his heart on going to the front to do his part as a soldier and having broken up his home rejection comes very hard on him. He has the satisfaction that he tried at all events*".

Skinner returned to practice at Yarram where he became a 'well known' solicitor, president of the Yarram Hospital Board and closely connected with many other organisations in the Yarram district. He died in September 1944 survived by his wife, two sons and a daughter.

